is available, allotment is made tor the particular site without taking into consideration the seniority of the allottee.

Price of Pashmina

8308. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that changpas of Ladakh region are not getting fair price for their pashmina from the State Government which pays them, Rs. 550/ per kg.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these changpas are selling all their produce to Chinese traders who pay them Rs. 1000/- per kg;

(c) if so, the reasons for low rate of payment by the State Government;

(d) whether Government propose to review the price offered to the changpas to boost their economic status; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The price offered by the State Government for pashmina now stands revised to Rs. 800/- per kg.

Development of shrimp cultivation

8309. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has vast scope for developing shrimp cultivation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that land utilisation regulations in different States are a hindrance in its development; and

(c) if so, the steps under consideration! to remove these hindrances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. It is estimated that about 12 lakh hectares of brackishwater area is available for developing shrimp farming in the coastal areas of the country.

(b) and (c) As per reports available, in most maritime states there is no such problem. Since land regulations come within the purview of the State Governments, it is for them to consider and resolve any such issue.

HI-Tech organic manures

8310. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country is producing hi-tech organic manures (fertilizers); if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research or research institutions under it have developed technical know how for producing hi-tech organic manures;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the research institutions; and

(d) whether technology has been transferred to the industry for commercialisation, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The total annual production of hi-tech bio-fertilizers, which are cultures of micro-organisms, is of the order of 2800 tonnes for Rhizibium species and 400 tonnes for Blue Green Algae.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The All India Coordinated Research Project on Biologi-